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SEPTEMBER 26, 1900.

Last Monday Mark Hanna, boss of the Republican party and defender of imperialism and trusts, gave a banquet at the Union League Club, Chicago, to a party of gentlemen, whose combined wealth aggregated \$125,000,000.

On the same day 125,000 Pennsylvania coal miners laid down their picks and shovels because the coal trust refused them living wages.

At the Union League Club banquet, given by Hanna, the plates cost \$15 each. The wines were costly beyond the dreams of Lucullus.

The ragged miners fed their wan faced babes that day on black crusts and water.

Mark Hanna depicted to his millionaire guests the prosperity that had been thrust upon them by McKinley and himself, and demanded a lordly contribution from them wherewith to "perpetuate the present administration."

On the same day the hard coal trust raised the price of its product one dollar a ton. The proceeds of this robbery is expected to buy the election of William McKinley.

In the meantime 250,000 men, women, and children are left to starve by the coal barons, while Hanna brutally declares there are no trusts and that everybody has a full dinner pail.

The miners grievances have been of long standing. For years the average wages have been less than 80 cents a day. While trusts have forced miners to pay an increase from 15 to 45 per cent for food and clothing the wage scale has remained the same. The miner was compelled to pay \$2.75 per keg for powder, which cost the coal trust \$1.00 a keg. The miner was compelled to dig 3,360 pounds of coal for a ton, and was also compelled to purchase his supplies at a company store at trust prices.

The situation in the mines is perhaps best described by James Creelman, who is making a personal investigation of the causes that led to the present strike. As Mr. Creelman says, the American public should understand the situation:

"For a number of days," says Mr. Creelman, "I have been wandering from shanty to shanty in the dreary anthracite coal settlements gathering from the miners and their wives the actual facts of the situation."

"No exaggeration is necessary to this story of patient suffering, for the most moderate statement of truth is enough to damn the industrial system which has darkened the homes and blighted the lives of something like a million men, women, and children."

"One does not have to be a political economist to understand the nature of this struggle for life. The humblest man in the country is capable of pointing out the real seat of responsibility."

"The miners of the anthracite coal regions are striking because the trusts have so raised the cost of living that the men can not support life on their wages. This great multitude of toilers deserves the sympathy and support of every good man or woman in the United States."

"Nearly every Republican newspaper has given evidence of the coldness with which the trusts and their allies have met the desperate protest and appeal of the mine workers. The cruelest element in the whole scene is the light tone of scorn adopted by the organs of the coal trust."

"Three days ago we were in McAdoo and there we ate with the

miners in their houses; and such pitiful shelters for human beings to live in!

"We were at the very heart of the trust question—the dinner table of the workingman. It would have been interesting had Mr. McKinley and Mr. Hanna been there to talk about prosperity and the full dinner pail."

"The grizzled father sat at the head of the table, his hands roughened by a life-time of labor. His three daughters—all compelled to work in the flower of their youth, sat around him. The mother, with face seamed and puckered by the struggle against starvation, waited on the rest."

"For twenty-four years the miner and his wife had lived in that little shanty. Ten children had been born there. Some were dead and the living were all engaged in the battle for bread. Not a dollar had been saved."

"And this year? The trusts had put up the price of everything. The coal trust has kept wages down."

The Democrats, says the New York World, are unquestionably helped greatly by these factors in the presidential campaign:

The support of Mr. Bryan by two of the ablest and most effective of Mr. McKinley's advocates in 1896, Carl Schurz and Bourke Cochran, and by ex-Secretary Olney and many other gold Democrats and independents who stand with them against McKinleyism.

His support on the anti-imperialist issue by ex-Secretary Boutwell, Col. Thomas W. Higginson and many other representatives of the intellect and conscience of the Republican party in its better days.

The fact, which Mr. Bryan and other Democratic speakers are bringing to public notice, that the undoubted prosperity of the country has been and is very unevenly distributed. While railroads, bankers, manufacturers and speculators have grown richer, the increased cost of living has in many instances more than offset every advance in wages, while persons with a small fixed income have gained no advantage whatever.

The undeniable fact that trusts and other monopolies have greatly multiplied since the Republicans came into power, and that nothing whatever has been done or honestly attempted to punish or prevent them.

Last—and perhaps yet to be the most important of all—the great coal strike. It is not impossible that this will be, even more than was the Homestead trouble so harmful to Mr. Harrison in 1892, an object lesson on the effects of monopoly that no flap doodle about "full dinner pails" will be able to offset; and this despite the fact so strongly proclaimed by President Mitchell that "politics will not, can not, and must not enter into the strike."

In actual effective work the campaign is still young. As a veteran campaigner said yesterday: "The Democrats have only just begun to fight."

#### A Political Prognostication.

More provoking things have happened, says the Dillon Herald, but we will bet dollars to doughnuts that if Bryan is elected to the presidency and Senator Tillman is given a seat in his cabinet, Jim Tillman will be our next governor and McSweeney will succeed Tillman to the senate. It has been whispered around that Bryan will make Tillman secretary of the navy. Well, it is reasonable to suppose that the astute senator will want to leave the dispensary in good hands and at the same time keep the name Tillman prominently before the voters of the State. In that event the Legislature will be given the power of electing Tillman's successor; and what could please both Tillmans more than to have that honor fall on McSweeney's shoulders? Of course this is mere political speculation; but should such changes in our State government be brought about by virtue of Bryan's election, the highly esteemed Colum-

bia State, which is an ardent Bryan supporter, would have our most profound sympathy in its severe affliction.

#### Two Constitutional Amendments.

In the general election in November there are two constitutional amendments to be voted upon by the people. Both are most important ones. The first is to insert a clause in the constitution that will permit Columbia, Charleston, Rock Hill and Georgetown to issue additional bonds with which to obtain sewerage, etc. The other relates to the drainage and reclaiming of swamp lands in the State.

Both these measures have received the necessary two-thirds vote in the General Assembly. If the people approve them they must then receive the same vote in the General Assembly before they can become of effect.

#### Tropical Cyclones.

Chicago Record. While interest is rife and the community stands aghast at the appalling loss of life caused along the gulf coast by the recent West Indian hurricane, a short history of these great storms, together with their cause, may not be amiss.

Hurricanes or tropical cyclones may be said to be children of the sun in their incipient stages, growing by degrees until they become leviathans of the deep, vast whirlwinds, dealing death and destruction to everything in their paths.

The North Atlantic ocean, six to eight degrees north of the equator, toward its warmer westward side in the vicinity of the Windward islands, appears to be the favored locality for their formation, the months of August, September, and October being those of greatest frequency. This is the region of equatorial calms or the doldrums, a belt lying between the trade winds of light variable winds frequent calms and thunderstorms. The air of this region being quiet becomes rapidly heated and charged with moisture, this producing an unstable condition of the atmosphere and a gradual conventional overturning, and from this development proceeds the spiral rotations of its surface winds being caused by the defective force of the earth's rotation to the right in this hemisphere, or contrary to the motion of the hands of a watch.

The hurricane having once started, a variety of causes tend to its rapid development, the principal one being the latent heat released during its excessive rainfall. The storm center itself, with its radial inflowing winds, generally moves at the rate of eight or ten miles an hour northward to a latitude 25 or 30, where they generally recurve to the north and east, being carried along in the general trend of the upper currents.

The recent hurricane pursued a track seldom traversed by this class of storms, its deflection across the gulf being caused by an area of high barometer overlying the eastern States which probably saved the south Atlantic seaboard from its ravages.

Fortunately these storms break up or diminish greatly in intensity on entering the continent, the sea, the great storehouse of their energy, being withdrawn.

While in all great hurricanes the wind attains a velocity of 60 to 100 miles an hour, yet the great est loss of life is invariably caused by the high tides forced inland by the winds and waves and carrying death and destruction to all before them, and had not Galveston been situated on a low lying island, subject to the high tides, while the loss by wind would have been considerable, the appalling disaster due to wind and wave would not have resulted.

In the following list appear some of the great tropical storms of the century:

Indianola, Tex., near Galveston, totally destroyed in 1875 and 176 lives lost.

Hurricane which devastated Galveston September, 1865, the barometer falling to 27.95 inches and over an inch and a half in 70 minutes.

Jamaica hurricane, August, 1881, devastated Jamaica, with a loss of 1,200 lives.

Hurricane of August, 1899, which devastated Porto Rico, with great loss of life.

All of the above storms, though, sink into insignificance compared with what is known as the Backergunge cyclone in eastern Bengal in 1870, which flooded the low lying islands at the mouth of the Brahmaputra river with a huge tidal wave, in which over 100,000 natives are supposed to have perished.

#### Praying for Tillman.

News and Courier. The 33d annual meeting of the Edgefield Baptist Association was held at Horn's Creek church in Edgefield county last week. The South Carolina Baptist says that at this meeting a collection was taken up for the benefit of the aged ministers of the Association, and that "while the brethren were marching to the front with their money the central figure in that godly company was our United States Senator, Benjamin R. Tillman." The Baptist adds:

"He did not only attend the Association with his good wife, but actually contributed of his substance to the support of aged ministers and Connie Maxwell Orphanage. We did see him spread his clean shaven lips in the singing of the melodious songs of Zion. The Horn's Creek church is located within a few miles of the home of his childhood. Who knows but that he may be meditating upon divine things and that when he grows old he will not depart from the wholesome truths and the good counsel he received in his youth? May God grant that this highly honored servant of the people may yet be a highly moral force in the elevation of the common people. Suppose we turn all censure and condemnation into earnest and faithful praying to this end."

The Abbeville Medium protests that Senator Tillman's conduct was commendable, in a way, but that he ought to have been singing the Psalms of David and not the "merely human compositions" that are used in the praise services at Horn's Creek church. In the circumstances, however, Senator Tillman could not have sung Psalms while the rest of the congregation were singing Hymns, and he had to sing Hymns or not sing at all, and those who have heard him on such occasions say that he has a fine, rich bass voice of great volume and particularly full in the lowest register. However, that may be, we are sure that good people of the State will join the South Carolina Baptist in its aspiration that "this highly honored servant of the people may yet be a highly moral force in the elevation of the common people."

We have a strong belief in the efficacy of prayer and have been assured that the fervent prayers of the righteous avail much. But while we are "praying to this end" it would be well to add a petition that the good Lord will not permit Senator Tillman to grow too old before accomplishing his reform, before making "the good counsel he received in his youth" effective in his present life. It would be such a long time to wait for the subject of prayerful meditation to be made an angel—we want him to be good here and not hereafter.

#### TURNIPS.

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Ryes from \$1.60 to \$2, \$2.50 and \$3.50 per gallon.  
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No charge for jug and box on above, and no charge at these prices for keg when wanted in such quantities.  
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